ITT Is Part of Your Life in D.C. Area

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Have your children been growing 12 ways on Wonder Bread?

Does your family eat Smithfield hams, Hostess cupcakes or Mortons Frozen Foods? Have you parked your car at a Diplomat parking lot recently? Or taken a business or speedwriting course at the Temple Secretarial School?

Perhaps you've parked at Dulles or National airports. Or purchased cigarettes, crackers, candy or sandwiches from a Canteen Corp. vending machine; or bought food at a restaurant or concession at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

If you receive or use any of the above services or products, or if you live in a Levitt-built suburban development, borrow money from the Aetna Finance Co., or rent an Avis car or truck, then you're a customer of the International Telephone and Telegraph Co. (ITT).

The giant conglomeate (assets $6.7 billion) touches Washington area residents in a number of ways, some of them surprising, at almost every level of home and business life.

Among ITT's subsidiaries operating in the Washington area are:

- Avis, Inc., car and truck rentals, with 21 offices in the Washington area.
- ITT Continental Banking Company, whose products include Wonder Bread, Hostess cupcakes, and Morton's Frozen Foods.
- ITT Gwaltney, a butcher and meat manufacturer marketing Smithfield Hams.
- ITT Canteen Corporation, one of the nation's largest vending machine operators. The corporation operates all food and restaurant concessinns at the Kennedy Center.
- ITT Levitt and Sons, Inc., plans and constructs residential communities and develops and manages shopping centers.
- ITT APCOA division, which operates parking lots for Dulles and National Airports.
- ITT Sheraton Hotels, with five hotels in the Washington area.
- ITT Aetna Finance Co., with seven offices in the Washington area.

The giant corporation is most recently known for the controversy surrounding alleged contributions it made to the Republican National Convention shortly before a favorable antitrust settlement with the U.S. Justice Department was reached.

That settlement was reached in August, 1971, after ITT agreed to divest itself of the Canteen Corp., and the Fire Protection Division of the Grinnell Corp. of Providence, R.I., a sprinkler systems manufacturer with offices here).

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ITT Is Part of Your Life in the D.C. Area

HOLDINGS, From C1

ITT, eighth in sales among all American industrial corporations in 1970, also agreed at the time to spin off its newly acquired Hartford Fire Insurance Co. (assets $2 billion), or, as an alternative, four other firms: Avis, Levitt and Sons, and its subsidiaries, ITT Hamilton Life Insurance Co., and ITT Life Insurance Co. of New York City.

The company since has indicated it will retain the Hartford Co. and divest itself of the others.

It has not yet done so.

Hartford Fire Insurance provides still another link between Washington residents and ITT.

It is Hartford that is underwriting a $160-million development of offices, apartment stores and a hotel at McLean Gardens, on Wisconsin Avenue.

The District of Columbia Zoning Commission is preparing for new hearings on the McLean Gardens project after the D.C. Court of Appeals overturned commission approval of the project in February. Resident groups have protested the planned development.

Other ITT holdings include Marquis Who's Who of Chicago, publishers of the well-known roster of prominent Americans and the Speedwriting Shorthand Division of the ITT Business Institute with offices in Washington, Bethesda, and Baileys Cross Roads, Va.

According to a U.S. House Judiciary Committee Antitrust Subcommittee report on conglomerate corporations, domestic manufacturing operations of ITT in 1970 accounted for sales of $1.4 billion.

Many of the firm's products are less visible to consumers than food and parking lots but just as important. The firms's subsidiaries also manufacture complete lines of pumps, incandescent, fluorescent and mercury vapor lighting fixtures and custom lighting equipment for commercial, institutional and school lighting, as well as air conditioning, heating and ventilating equipment.

According to the House Report, ITT has 1,638 employes in Washington; 2,473 in Virginia, and 604 in Maryland.